Welcome to Ann Arbor, Michigan!
Overview of Presentation

- Trips in Michigan
- Other NA destinations
- Check Before you Leave
- Things to Consider
- Health and Safety
- Getting around North America: Planes, Trains, Buses, Road Trip
- Discounts
- Accommodations
- Outdoor Trips
- Organized Trips
- Helpful Sites
Trips in State: Largest Cities

- Detroit – sports, concerts, restaurants – most convenient to Ann Arbor (45 minutes)
- Grand Rapids – smaller than Detroit, but still plenty to do (2 hours)
- Lansing – Capital; seat of government (1 hour)

Michigan’s Tourism Site: www.michigan.org/
Trips in State: Other Popular Places

- Mackinaw City/Island/Bridge (4 hours)
- Traverse City (4 hours)
- Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes (4.5 hours)
- Upper Peninsula (5-10 hours)
- Lake Michigan Coast (3 hours)
- Frankenmuth (1.5 hours)
- Huron-Clinton Metroparks (30 minutes)
- State Parks (Michigan)

Michigan’s Tourism Site: http://www.michigan.org/
Trips in Canada: Popular Destinations
Trips in Southern North America: Popular Destinations
BEFORE YOU LEAVE

- Visa?
- Guidebooks
- Finances

Immunization: Check out required vaccines at http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list/
THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Check the weather
- Consider Time
- Save Money

Fact: The days before & after the Thanksgiving holiday are some of the busiest travel days of the year!

Groupon

Informational brochures from the tourism bureau

Student Rates
HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health Insurance

Guidebooks
Ask hostel/hotel staff about places to avoid

Travel Registry

Immunizations

Avoid Danger
- Abandoned places
- Hitchhikers
- Walking around at night
- Project confidence!
- Women traveling alone
## Getting Around North America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Planes</th>
<th>Trains</th>
<th>Buses</th>
<th>Road Trip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost</strong></td>
<td>Cheap to Expensive</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Cheap</td>
<td>Cheap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>Quick</td>
<td>Long</td>
<td>Long</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example: New York</strong></td>
<td>$84 (1.75 hours)</td>
<td>$94 (18 hours)</td>
<td>$56 (15 hours)</td>
<td>$60 (9.5 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example: Chicago</strong></td>
<td>$69 (1.25 hours)</td>
<td>$37 (4.5 hours)</td>
<td>$19 (6 hours)</td>
<td>$27 (4 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pros</strong></td>
<td>Time saving</td>
<td>Scenic</td>
<td>Scenic</td>
<td>Scenic, cheapest if carpooling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cons</strong></td>
<td>Costs can vary depending on time of year, baggage costs</td>
<td>Long trip - spend more money on buying meals along the way</td>
<td>Long trip - spend more money on buying meals along the way</td>
<td>Need to maintain car, pay for any car problems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PLANES

Travel websites:

- www.statravel.com
- www.expedia.com
- www.kayak.com
- www.studentuniverse.com

Low cost airlines flying out of Detroit:
Southwest, Spirit, JetBlue, and Frontier

- Consider extra fees!

Join Mileage programs

- You can earn miles toward free domestic and international flights

Tip: Delta airline offers a basic fare that is generally cheaper but does not allow you to choose a seat when you purchase.
TRAINS

Amtrak
  • Save 10% with an International Student ID card
  • www.amtrak.com

Via Rail
  • Canada only
  • Student discounts available!
  • www.viarail.ca
BUSES

Fares discounted when you book in advance!

- **Megabus**: [www.megabus.com/us](http://www.megabus.com/us)
- **Greyhound**: [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)
- **Michigan Flyer**: [http://www.michiganflyer.com](http://www.michiganflyer.com)
  - $12 to go from BTC to Detroit Metro Airport
  - Has Wifi and Power Outlet
- **CSG airBus**: [http://csgairbus.com/](http://csgairbus.com/)
  - Program is through student government
  - Conditional on academic calendar
ROAD TRIP

• Take your car and go across the country!

• Tips:
  ■ Check your car (fluid levels, brakes, tires, etc.)
  ■ Know how to change flat tires
  ■ Have maps (don’t rely on GPS)

• Renting:
  ■ Insurance coverage- Get it!
  ■ Age restrictions (25 and under have higher rates)
  ■ Look on sites like Priceline for best rates

Map out your travel!
http://ttp.aaa.com/TripTik/#
Discount Opportunities

Sites:
- http://www.bradsdeals.com/blog/student-discounts
- https://www.groupon.com/
- https://www.livingsocial.com/

International Student Identity Card (ISIC: need to apply)
- Discount around the world; 125,000 discount deals in U.S.
- Register fee $25

MCard (U-M): Over 400 discounts with MCard in and around Ann Arbor
# ACCOMMODATIONS

## Hotels/Motels
- [www.hotels.com](http://www.hotels.com)
- [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com)
- [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com)

## Hostels
- [www.hostels.com](http://www.hostels.com)
- [www.hostelworld.com](http://www.hostelworld.com)

## Alternative Accommodations
- [www.airbnb.com](http://www.airbnb.com)
- [www.vrbo.com](http://www.vrbo.com)
- [www.couchsurfing.com](http://www.couchsurfing.com)
- [https://www.reserveamerica.com/](https://www.reserveamerica.com/)

Camping equipment rentals through U-M:

[https://recsports.umich.edu/article/equipment-rentals](https://recsports.umich.edu/article/equipment-rentals)
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE TRIPS

Organized by UM Rec Sports Outdoor Adventure Program

- Sailing
- Hiking
- White Water Rafting

More information and registration here:
www.recsports.umich.edu/outdooradv/trips/

Michigan Outdoor Leadership Semester:
https://recsports.umich.edu/article/michigan-outdoor-leadership-semester-mo.ls-o
ORGANIZED TRIPS THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Check out event listings here:
www.internationalcenter.umich.edu/events/social-events.html

In addition to the IC:

- CCI: Center for Campus and Involvement
- Alternative Spring Break

Look out for email announcements!
Other workshops to attend

- “Driving in the U.S.”
- “Getting Around Ann Arbor and Personal Safety”
- “Things to do in Ann Arbor”
- “How to Buy A Used Car”
SAFE TRAVELS!

Don’t forget the Evaluations:

Using this link: bit.ly/umicorIENTATION

OR Using QR Code (with app):

Thank you!